

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007***

The meeting was called to order at 6:41pm. Selectmen present were Wes Moore and Michael Woodworth. James McIlroy joined the meeting in progress. Others present were: Chief Reed, Larry Arend, Karen Lynch, Jack Shaw, Jamie Thompson, Joe Stark and John Crisp.

Chief Reed reports that the lights in his office are not working. The bulbs are not the problem and an electrician is required. Nancy will speak to the Building Inspector about hiring an electrician.

A resident complained to Chief Reed of damage to his mailbox and the complaint was given to the Selectmen.

The Chief also reported that someone ran into the right side and front of the Fire Department building. No report was filed and if the person is identified, a failure to report misdemeanor will be written. Wes advised that there were no rescue or fire calls in the past two days and does not believe the damage was done by a volunteer fire fighter or rescue worker. Wes will speak to the Fire Chief about this damage.

No applicants for the position available for part-time police officers passed the oral examination. Chief Reed will put ads in the newspapers again for part-time officers and hopes to have a better response for the open positions.

The Chief advised that Officer Tanya Lampi is resigning from the Newfields Police Department. She will leave her position sometime in January.

Larry Arend, Library Trustee notified the Selectmen that Rob MacPherson has resigned his Library Trustee position. Larry spoke with Peter Allen who is willing to fill in as a Library Trustee until the March elections. Peter will run for office in March. This means there will be two Library Trustee positions open in the March 2008 elections – 1 two year term and 1 three year term. Larry will have Peter Allen go to the Town office next week to be sworn in.

Larry asked the Selectmen for a copy of the Town's insurance policy. As it is quite large, Larry may go to the Town Office and photocopy it.

Wes asked Larry if he was aware that a Farmers Market to be held on Town property was never approved by the Board of Selectmen. Larry advised that he did know this at the time Peter Allen approached the Library Trustees for permission to use the Library

premises for a Farmers Market. Wes then said that if the voters approve a Farmers Market, there is no issue with the insurance coverage. The process was explained to Peter – form an association, file a Citizen’s Petition, etc. Peter chose not to take this path for a Chartered Farmers Market of Newfields. The Selectmen offered their help to work with Peter over the winter to help him go through the process and thus be able to use Town property in the future without being required to carry his own insurance coverage.

Larry asked if there is a rider on the insurance policy for the items in the Library that belong to the Town. No rider is in place at this time.

Karen Lynch asked if the Town would pay for a fire and burglar alarm at the Library. This item has been discussed in prior meetings but was not approved. Any alarm system would be the responsibility of the Library and should be included in their budget.

Larry advised that Deborah Chaze resigned as Library Director and Rachel Priest has been hired to replace her. The budget for the Library for 2008 includes six weeks of salary for Deborah as a consultant during the transition from her to Rachel. Deborah will bring Rachel into the Town Office to complete the necessary employment paperwork.

Wes asked for an update on the parking lot. Larry said that some abutters were concerned about drainage and the plans were re-worked. The work will be put off until the spring. Larry will check with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to see if they need to tie into the storm drain. He said that the DOT has signed off on the driveway project. The driveway and parking lot will be made of crushed asphalt rather than stonedust. There will be curbing along the property line with the Connors and arborvitae will be planted there. They are using the contractor’s recommendation for the project.

The final item discussed about the Library was the poor landscaping work completed this year. The fall cleanup never took place. The Selectmen have this item on the Agenda to discuss later on tonight.

Chief Reed returned to the meeting to discuss the damage to one of the cruisers. Officer McAulay hit a deer while on patrol and it will cost approximately \$510.00 to have the cruiser repaired. Officer McAulay was not injured and the deer was euthanized. The cruiser is drivable but does not have a front grille. The Chief was authorized to have the damage repaired with the funds to come out of the Police Cruiser Revolving Fund.

Jack Shaw stopped in to the meeting to see if jake brakes could be banned on Main Street. He also asked if railroad whistles could be prohibited in Town. Wes advised Jack that he had researched the issue of railroad whistles for another resident and they can not be prohibited unless the entire railroad route is fenced.

Jack then asked for advice on putting together a Citizen’s Petition. He also asked for confirmation that the Town is not ready to move one of the departments to the old Post Office building in the near future.

The Budget Advisory Committee members met with the Selectmen to go over the various department budget requests for 2008. Several lines were discussed in detail and the Selectmen will meet with two of the department heads next week for further review.

The Budget Advisory Committee will forward the figures they have compiled and their recommendations to the Selectmen as soon as possible.

The Selectmen appreciate the hard work and dedication of the Budget Advisory Committee members.

Checks were signed.

One Abatement was approved to waive the Inventory Penalty.

The Renewal Group Health Application was signed.

Two Audit Report Reportable Conditions were signed.

Correspondence from Senator Maggie Hassan with regard to the Arboviruses Task Force was reviewed.

The Accident Report completed by Newfields Police Officer Stephen McAulay was reviewed.

A Notice of Decision from the Zoning Board of Adjustment was reviewed.

The Statewide Enhanced Education Tax Warrant for Tax Year 2008 was reviewed.

Possible over-time hours for the Administrative Assistant to train the Town Treasurer were approved. Any over-time is to be kept to a reasonable amount.

Various ways of advertising the old Post Office Building for lease were discussed. Notices will be posted at various locations in town to contact Wes Moore at 778-7000 if you are interested in office space. There is approximately 800 square feet available.

There was a discussion about a complaint received of the condition of the crosswalk at the Newfield Elementary School. The Highway Department had been contacted about this and advised that the State plowed Piscassic Road after the Highway Department had cleared the sidewalks and crosswalk. The Highway Department went back and cleared up the snow.

It was decided to pay the two invoices from Civil Design not previously paid. The two current invoices will be held.

The new Town Planner asked if the Building Inspector/Assessor/Town Planner computer could be updated. It is extremely slow and does not have a lot of memory. The Selectmen approved the purchase of a new computer at a cost of no more than \$500.00. The computer must include WindowsXP and Microsoft Office. The Town credit card is to be used for the purchase.

The lack of a Woodburning Exemption was discussed again. The resident who asked for this exemption will be advised that he/she may present a Citizen's Petition for this.

Wes made a motion to accept the Minutes of the November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Selectmen's Meeting as revised. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The lack of a fall clean up by the contracted landscaper was discussed. It was decided to ask him to come to a Selectmen's Meeting in January 2008 to discuss the problems. The Selectmen also decided to put the Town's landscaping out to bid in 2008.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45pm. James seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer  
Administrative Assistant